

For Immediate Release Thursday, May 15, 2003 For More Information: Kristin Rieber - (866) 262-7307 Karen Renkema - (866)LAJOY21

Patterson and LaJoy: Support of Troops Still Strong

Lansing, Mich. — Senator Bruce Patterson (R-Canton) and Representative Phil LaJoy (R-Canton) today announced that the "Support Our Troops" event, held on Saturday, May 10, 2003 in the Canton Township Park, resulting in the collection of 83 international calling cards for use by our troops.

"With the peak of the war in Iraq behind us, we must remember that we still have many of our sons and daughters overseas keeping us safe. Saturday's event illustrated the strong support our community members have for our personnel," said Patterson. "These calling cards will help family members stay in touch with loved ones until they return home."

Senator Patterson and Representative LaJoy want to send their appreciation to all members of the local communities who attended the function.

"Having the support of Americans back home means a great deal to our brave men and women overseas," said LaJoy, who served in the U.S. Marine Corps. "We must make every effort to tell service members that we stand with them in the war on terror. Donating calling cards is an excellent way to help deliver our message."

Those in attendance included U.S. Congressman Thaddeus McCotter, Canton Township Supervisor Tom Yack and his wife Barb, and several members of the Canton Vietnam Veterans Association.

Patterson and LaJoy, to show their appreciation to those who attended, gave away two flags previously flown over the Michigan Capitol. Bob Lamoureux of Canton received the Michigan flag and Al Kerbison of Westland received the United States of America flag.